

MARINE CORPS EMERGENCY ACTIONS CENTER  
Headquarters, U. S. Marine Corps  
Washington 25, D. C.

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SUMMARY OF ITEMS OF SIGNIFICANT INTEREST

PERIOD 190701 - 200700 SEPTEMBER 1962

I. CARIBBEAN

a. COMNAVBASE GTMO HAS INFORMED COMCARIBSEAFRON THAT 1500 CUBAN MILITIA WERE REPORTED MOVING TOWARDS THE BASE. HOWEVER, HIS PRESENT ESTIMATE IS THAT THIS DOES NOT CONSTITUTE A THREAT.

COMNAVBASE GTMO HAS ASSUMED A POSTURE OF READINESS UNTIL DAYLIGHT, 19 SEP. MEASURES TAKEN INCLUDE REINFORCEMENT OF SECURITY FORCES, MOVING ANGLICO NAVAL GUNFIRE ELEMENTS INTO THE FIELD WHERE THEY HAVE ESTABLISHED COMMUNICATIONS WITH THREE FIRE SUPPORT SHIPS; ALL GROUND FORCES HAVE BEEN ALERTED; AND AIRCRAFT ARMED WITH FLARES AND NAPALM ARE READY TO FLY.

COMNAVBASE GTMO SUBSEQUENTLY CONFIRMED THAT ADDITIONAL CUBAN GROUND FORCES, BUT WITHOUT HEAVY EQUIPMENT, MOVED INTO A TRAINING AREA NEAR CAIMANERA, NORTHWEST OF THE BASE. HE PLANNED TO REVERT TO NORMAL OPERATIONS IF AERIAL SURVEILLANCE DISCLOSED NOTHING FURTHER.

COMNAVBASE GTMO 190209Z (S)  
COMNAVBASE GTMO 191143Z (S)

PAGE 1 of 3 PAGES

EXCLUDED FROM AUTOMATIC  
REGRADING, DOD DIR 5200.10  
DOES NOT APPLY

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b. CINCLANT ~~HAS~~ INFORMED JCS CONCERNING THE PROBABLE INCREASE OF THE CUBAN MILITARY CAPABILITY CONFRONTING THE GUANTANAMO NAVAL BASE AND OUTLINED THE MEASURES TAKEN SINCE FEBRUARY TO IMPROVE THE DEFENSES THERE.

CINCLANT FURTHER STATED THAT IF PREVIOUSLY REQUESTED FUNDS WERE MADE AVAILABLE WITHIN TWO WEEKS IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE TO COMPLETE PLANNED FORTIFICATIONS EARLY IN 1963.

CINCLANT 182308Z (TS)

c. CINCLANTFLT ADVISED CNO THAT THE INCREASED AIR CAPABILITY OF CUBA, RELATIVE TO GUANTANAMO, POSED A THREAT TO MARINE AIR AND GROUND FORCES. THESE FORCES CAN DEFEND AGAINST MEDIUM AND HIGH FLYING INTRUDERS, BUT THEIR CAPABILITY TO DETECT AND DEFEND AGAINST LOW FLYING INTRUDERS IS VERY LIMITED.

HE FURTHER STATED THAT HAWK SAM WEAPONS CAN PROVIDE DEFENSE AGAINST LOW FLYING AIRCRAFT AND REQUESTED CNO TO URGE FOR MOVEMENT OF A MARINE CORPS HAWK BATTALION TO THE EAST COAST EARLIER THAN A PROPOSED DATE OF JULY 1963.

CINCLANTFLT 182310Z (TS)

~~CMC 191947Z (TS)~~

d. COMNAVBASE GTMO REPORTED TO CNO THAT AP PRESS RELEASES BY MR. FRED HOFFMAN HAVE NOT BEEN CONSISTENT WITH THE INFORMATION OBTAINED FROM BASE AUTHORITIES.

MR. HOFFMAN'S PRESS RELEASE THAT 5000 ADDITIONAL CUBAN ARMY/MILITIA FORCES RECENTLY ARRIVED GTMO NAVA. BASE AREA IS NOT BASED ON ANYTHING SAID BY GTMO AUTHORITIES.

PAGE 2 of 5 PAGES

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NEWS MEDIA WERE TOLD THAT IT WAS ESTIMATED THAT 5000 CUBAN ARMY/MILITIA FORCES WERE WITHIN A 20-25 MILE RADIUS OF NAVAL BASE

MR. HOFFMAN LEFT GTMC NAVAL BASE 17 SEPTEMBER FOR HOMESTEAD AFB.

COMNAVBASE 171855Z (C)

a. CINCLANT ADVISED JCS THAT AS A RESULT OF INCREASED CUBAN CAPABILITY AND THEIR ACTIVITY AGAINST RECON AND SURVEILLANCE FORCES IN THE CUBA/KEY WEST AREA, CINCLANTFLT HAS BEEN DIRECTED TO ESTABLISH A DETACHMENT OF SIX (6) F8U AIRCRAFT AT KEY WEST FOR OPCON COMKEYWESTFOR CN 19 SEPTEMBER.

CINCLANT 182316Z (S)

f. CINCLANT ~~HAS~~ ADVISED CINCONAD OF HIS CONCERN DUE TO THE INCREASING CUBAN AIR WARFARE CAPABILITY AND IMPLICATIONS FOR THE AIR DEFENSE OF KEY WEST. TOGETHER, THESE JEOPARDIZE CINCLANT OPLANS 314-61 AND 316-61.

CINCLANT SUGGESTED THAT CONSIDERATION BE GIVEN TO INSTALLATION OF A SUITABLE LOW ALTITUDE GROUND TO AIR MISSILE SYSTEM SUCH AS HAWK AT KEY WEST.

CINCLANT 182324Z (TS)  
CMC 191948Z (TS)

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2. ASIA

a. COMUSMACV REPORTED NMM 183 CONDUCTED ITS FIRST COMBAT OPERATION 18 SEPTEMBER, SINCE ARRIVING IN THE ARVN I CORPS TACTICAL ZONE. 14 HELICOPTERS WERE COMMITTED IN A 2D DIV CONTROLLED OPERATION WITH A MISSION TO SEEK AND DESTROY VIET CONG AND VIET CONG INSTALLATIONS.

(EAC NOTE: NMM 183 DEPLOYED TO TOURANE FROM SOC TRANG 151200Z SEPTEMBER)

ADMINO COMUSMACV 15215Z (S)

b. OSD ADVISED COMUSMACV AND COMUSMACS THAILAND OF A PROPOSAL TO CONDUCT A "SMALL AIRFIELD FOR TACTICAL SUPPORT" (SATS) ENGINEERING AND ENVIRONMENTAL TEST IN MUD AT BINH HUNG, SVN. THIS SATS IS CONSTRUCTED WITH PANELS MADE OF A PRESSED BOARD CORE COVERED WITH SHEET ALUMINUM.

THE TESTS ENVISIONED WOULD UTILIZE HELICOPTERS LANDING AND ROLLING ON AN INSTALLED PAD TO CHECK FEASIBILITY OF THE CONCEPT. PRELIMINARY TESTS IN THE US INDICATE THAT THESE SATS PANELS CAN HANDLE FIGHTER TYPE AIRCRAFT.

(EAC NOTE: BINH HUNG, SVN IS IN THE MEKONG DELTA 185 MILES SOUTHWEST OF SAIGON.)

OSD 181904Z (C)

PAGE 4 of 5 PAGES

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3. MARINE CORPS

a. MARINE CORPS VMA TRANSALT TRAINING FLIGHT IS NOW IN FINAL PLANNING STAGES AND WILL BE CONDUCTED 5 DAYS AFTER COMPLETION OF MERCURY FLIGHT MA-8.

CINCLANTFLT 181956Z (C)

4. MOVEMENTS

a. LTGEN HOLLOWAY WILL BE ACTING CINCSRIKE DURING PERIOD 20-22 SEPTEMBER IN THE ABSENCE OF GENERAL ADAMS WHO IS ATTENDING AN AFA CONVENTION AT LAS VEGAS, NEVADA.

CINCSRIKE 182145Z (U)

b. BLT 1/2 AND A DETACHMENT OF HMM-262 (LANFORMED 3-62) DEPARTED MOREHEAD CITY, N. C. ON 19 SEPTEMBER ABOARD SHIPS OF PHIBRON-4, ETA POLLENSA BAY, MAJORCA IS 4 OCTOBER.

CTG 44.2 181700Z (C)

c. A DETACHMENT OF THE 1ST MAAM BN IS SCHEDULED TO LEAVE 29 PALMS AND ARRIVE MCAS YUMA, TODAY.

DEP CG AIRFMFPAC 182120Z (U)

5. DEFCONS

a. NO CHANGE.

JWR

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